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Operational activities for development: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Iran (Islamic Republic of):* draft resolution

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences and for ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the newly emerging global economic system,

Recognizing that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, and reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation through the modality of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1] 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and 50/119 of 20 December 1995, 52/205 of 18 December 1997 and 54/226 of 22 December 1999 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, as well as other relevant resolutions of the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1979* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

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General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reiterating the continued relevance and validity of the principles and objectives embodied in the Group of 77's Caracas Programme of Action (1981)[2] on economic cooperation among developing countries, the San Jose Declaration and Plan of Action (1997)[3] on South-South cooperation in trade, investment and finance, the Bali Declaration and Plan of Action (1998)[4] on regional and subregional economic cooperation and integration, the Declaration of the South Summit and Havana Programme of Action (2000),[5] which accorded South-South cooperation high priority in order for developing countries to meet new development challenges, as well as other relevant declarations and plans of action,

Taking note of the Ministerial Statement adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-fourth annual meeting,[6] held in New York on 15 September 2000, in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation was emphasized,

Welcoming the Tehran Consensus adopted by the Group of 77 at the Tenth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries,[7] held at Tehran from 18 to 22 August 2001, which calls for consolidating the South-South platform, building stronger South institutions at the global level, bridging the knowledge and information gap, building broad-based partnerships and mobilizing global support for South-South cooperation,

1. *Endorses* the report of the High Level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its twelfth session[8] and the decisions adopted by the High Level Committee at that session;[9]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[10]

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the significant increase and expanded use of South-South cooperation by developing countries as an important and effective instrument of international cooperation and, in this connection, urges developing countries in a position to do so to intensify technical and economic cooperation initiatives at the regional and inter-regional levels in areas such as health, education, training, agriculture, science and new technologies, and in particular information and communication technologies;

4. *Reiterates* that South-South cooperation should be viewed not as a substitute for, but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation and, in that connection, notes with appreciation the increasing number of developed countries and development foundations supporting South-South cooperation activities through

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[2] A/36/333 and Corr.1, annex.
[3] A/C.2/52/8, annex.
[4] A/53/739, annexes I and II.
[5] A/55/74, annexes I and II.
[6] A/55/459, annex.
[7] A/56/358 and Corr.1.
[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/56/39).
[9] Ibid., annex I.
[10] A/56/465.

a variety of triangular arrangements, including direct support or cost-sharing arrangements, joint research and development projects and third-country training programmes;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by a number of countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation, and to the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and invites all countries to contribute to the Trust Funds in support of a revitalized South-South platform designed to benefit developing countries, especially the least developed, landlocked and small island developing States;

6. *Recognizes* the urgent need to build stronger South institutions, including policy research and development institutions and centres of excellence, especially at the regional, inter-regional and global levels, and to have linkages among them through networking arrangements, and by making more effective use of the South's institutional capacity, so as to improve South-South knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and information flow, and policy analysis and coordination among developing countries on major development issues of common concern;

7. *Requests* all organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system to make concerted and intensified efforts to effectively mainstream the use of South-South cooperation by way of giving such cooperation appropriate consideration in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes;

8. *Calls upon* all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral institutions to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for South-South cooperation and, in this context, welcomes decision 2001/2, of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, in which the Board requested the Administrator to consider reviewing, in the context of the successor programming arrangements, the allocation of additional resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries;

9. *Recognizes* the need for raising public awareness of and support for South-South cooperation as a dynamic form of international development cooperation which can give real content to the concept of ownership and partnership, and for this reason, welcomes the Tehran Consensus proposal to launch the first International Decade on South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through coordination of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme and in consultation with relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in the South, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on requirements and possible activities to be carried out during the proposed International Decade for South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to ensure that the separate identity of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries is maintained and to further strengthen its institutional capacity through mobilizing additional resources to

enable it to execute its increased responsibilities effectively as the United Nations system focal point on South-South cooperation;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries", and in that context requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to it at that session a report on the state of South-South cooperation and a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.